



# Salaried Portfolio GP

**Live in Shropshire**

**Work and train with Shropshire Doctors Co-operative**



If you are looking for an exciting, diverse, rewarding and satisfying career then look no further.

Our mission is to **'keep the patient at the heart of all we do'** and in the process we deliver the highest standard of healthcare and develop our employees to help them reach their career aspirations.

*'Shropdoc has provided me with a wonderful patient and colleague experience over the last 5 years. The fact that time has flown by so quickly, is testament to that. It has challenged me in a positive way and rewarded way beyond the financial. I have banked many memories and experiences with my patients and dear colleagues.'* - Dr Adrian Fairbanks (Associate Medical Director)



***“To keep the patient at the heart of all that we do”***

## **History of Shropshire Doctors Co-operative**

Shropshire Doctors Co-operative (Shropdoc) was established in 1996 in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

We provide superior care and services to all our patients across Shropshire and within the Welsh county of Powys, ensuring the highest standards of care are delivered in a welcoming, compassionate and dignified environment.

Shropdoc is offering GPs the opportunity to mould a career in their preferred specialty by undertaking a salaried position including a range of diverse roles within both the integrated urgent care and community care settings. The portfolio may include the following:

- ⇒ Study time for continuous professional development
- ⇒ Acute Visiting Service (AVS)
- ⇒ OOH telephone triage
- ⇒ OOH base and home visiting
- ⇒ In-hours support to Community Hospitals
- ⇒ Urgent Care Centre
- ⇒ Ambulatory Emergency Care
- ⇒ IUC Extended Access

Shropdoc have been delivering an exceptional Out Of Hours service (OOH) for over 20 years across Shropshire and within the Welsh county of Powys, serving a patient population of over 600,000. Our extensive range of enhanced services are supported by 186 GPs and local clinical professionals who are part of a positive, friendly and dedicated team working together to deliver the highest standard of patient care. We are a well-established and highly respected social enterprise and are proud to have been inspected and rated ‘outstanding’ by the CQC.

Shropdoc is a caring, forward thinking and a innovative organisation. Our large GP Membership community works closely with a wide range of other clinical staff and has access to excellent clinical leadership. We offer continuous professional development and future progression opportunities to become a Medical Director are available.

**Shropshire Doctors Co-Operative Ltd**

Inspected and rated

**Outstanding** ★





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## **Live in Shropshire**

Shropdoc is surrounded by beautiful Shropshire landmarks, World Heritage Sites and stunning hidden picturesque views. Shropshire has been named one of the happiest places to live in the UK according to the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

Shropshire is a friendly community, welcoming local residents to join the many organised active groups such as Shropshire Adventure Rowing Club, Shropshire Shufflers (a popular running group) and the UK's National Cycling Group. Shropshire marathons take place throughout the year however, should you seek more adventurous activities, rock climbing, canoeing and clay shooting are available.

Shropshire offers outstanding dining options including local French restaurants, mouth watering fine fish dishes, Asian meets European cuisine and the best of British.

In the heart of Shropshire lies the county town of Shrewsbury, one of the finest Tudor towns in England, filled with beautiful architecture and a wealth of historic buildings. Shrewsbury is the famous birth place of Charles Darwin, British navel hero Admiral John Benbow, Blue Peter gardener Percy Thrower, award- winning author Mary Webb, Commander -in-Chief of the British Army Lord Rowland Hill, the first world war poet Wilfred Owen and Shrewsbury's historic Mayor Robert Clive.

To the east of Shrewsbury is the World Heritage Site of Ironbridge; the ten museums of the Ironbridge Gorge celebrate the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Ironbridge Gorge Museums offer fantastic days out including the opportunity to experience how families lived in a Victorian town 100 years ago.

To the west of Shrewsbury is Powys, the largest county in Wales. Here you will be at one with nature from stargazing in Brecon, exploring the grandeur of Pen y Fan and Cribyn, viewing the spectacular waterfalls and getting a taste of Welsh whisky at the Penderyn Distillery at the southern edge of the Brecon Beacons.

Shropshire offers outstanding schooling options including a vast amount of independent same sex and co-educational day and boarding schools as well as state-funded, special and alternative schools, with the majority of Shropshire schools rated 'Good' and 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

If you wish to travel to neighbouring cities, great transport links are available to surrounding cities including direct train links to Manchester, Birmingham and London.



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## **Work at Shropdoc**

Shropdoc offer exciting career opportunities. A day in the life of a Shropdoc GP presents a diverse range of experiences and opportunities resulting in an stimulating work balance, whilst positively impacting patients' lives and building lasting patient relationships in a meaningful role.

Shropdoc offers GPs the opportunity to mould a career in their preferred speciality by undertaking a salaried position encompassing a range of diverse roles within both the integrated urgent care and community care settings.

The portfolio may include the following:

### ⇒ Acute Visiting Service

For many years now Shropdoc has provided an in-hours Acute Visiting Service, which is in effect a Frailty Visiting Service for patients who cannot get to the surgery. Commenting on the service, one of our Frailty trained GPs said “This service enables me to really practice what I learned while studying for the MSc in Frailty at Keele University. I find I have the time to review the patient’s case and make recommendations for changes that will ultimately enable patients to stay healthier and happier at home, for longer.” The MSc in Frailty from the University of Keele was co-developed by Shropdoc.

### ⇒ OOH Telephone Triage

Shropdoc has a rich tradition in providing telephone consultations to patients, not only in the out-of-hours period but also in support of some practices during the normal working day. Over the years we have developed a comprehensive in-house training programme for telephone triage with over 60% of our out-of-hours telephone consultations resulting in advice only.

Uniquely, Shropdoc has helped some UK-registered GPs retain their GMC registration when posted abroad by enabling them to undertake triage remotely. Commenting on this, one GP said, *“I am just writing to say thank you to the Shropdoc team for all of the help and support that I received whilst working for them until 2018. I used to live in Shropshire where I did regular shifts and then moved to Canada for two years with my husband’s job in the British Army. It was quite stressful planning how I could maintain my GP appraisal. As I was already doing regular triage shifts, including from home, I was allowed to do them via Skype from Canada. Because of the support I received in being able to do this, I passed my yearly NHS appraisals (via Skype) and have moved back to the UK straight back into a normal GP job.”*





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### ⇒ OOH Base and Home Visiting

The provision of primary care centre appointment and home visits is central to the delivery of our local OOH service in Shropshire and Powys. Since January 2019, all GPs working in the service in England have access to the full EMIS patient record system to support clinical decisions when seeing patients out-of-hours. We recognised many years ago that 15 minute appointments were best for OOH consultations. Additionally, because we have a thorough understanding of human factors, we always strive to ensure our clinicians are ‘comfortably busy’ as opposed to ‘maxed out’. This makes for a much more comfortable and enjoyable working environment than daytime General Practice. One of our GPs commented *“I really enjoy coming to do a Shropdoc shift because I can switch off that bit of my brain that worries about referral letters, paperwork and the next partners’ meeting and just concentrate on the patient in front of me. After all, discovering what is bothering a patient is the reason I studied medicine in the first place and it’s satisfying to do just that for few hours a week and leave the rest of the noise behind.”*

### ⇒ Support To Community Hospitals – In hours and Out of Hours

As a salaried GP working for Shropdoc you will have the opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills to support inpatients in the many Community Hospitals that both Shropshire and Powys are fortunate to retain. These units provide both step-up and step-down care for inpatients but also serve as the base for Minor Injuries Units; the latter will often call on our help OOH to support clinical decision making. One Shropdoc GP said *“Serving a rural population many miles away from the nearest DGH means that we have to retain expertise in minor injuries and the interpretation of X-Rays. I enjoy it and our patients are grateful that they don’t have to travel miles. Mind you, we’ve been surprised by some of the injuries, particularly the ones the farmers turn up with!”*



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## **Work at Shropdoc**

### ⇒ [Urgent Care Centre and Ambulatory Emergency Care](#)

Shropdoc has provided Urgent Care alongside the Emergency Department teams at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals in one form or another since 2014 and at Leighton Hospital in Crewe between 2009 and 2017; we therefore have considerable expertise in helping develop patient pathways and improving services for patients. We are looking forward to helping the local health economy develop the current Urgent Care Centre at Princess Royal Hospital into an Urgent Treatment Centre in the future. As well as offering family friendly working patterns at the current Urgent Care Centre, a Shropdoc portfolio GP could look forward to being involved in service re-design and development in this respect.

### ⇒ [Ambulatory Emergency Care](#)

In 2016, Shropdoc helped the local Trust develop a GP-supported model for Ambulatory Emergency Care at its 2 hospitals, which is a model not widely found in the UK but which affords portfolio GPs the opportunity to develop Acute Medicine competencies. Shropdoc's Medical Director who helped set up the service said *“It's really powerful having a GP in the Ambulatory Emergency Care Unit because we exercise a different risk model to our secondary care colleagues and will only do those tests that inform our uncertainty and enable us to manage the patient safely back in the community. I don't worry that a patient's 'serum rhubarb' is abnormal when it's been abnormal for years! I do however enjoy being able to converse with Consultant colleagues about the significance of lab results and scans and I'm always learning something new. We had a whole session on the pathophysiology of PE the other day and it was fascinating.”*

### ⇒ [IUC Extended Access](#)

The provision of Extended Access to patients across Shropshire ensures patients are able to book routine appointments to see a GP at a time which may be more convenient. These appointments are available at the weekends and during bank holidays in the local area.



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## **Train with Shropdoc**

### Study time for continuous professional development

As a learning organisation Shropdoc expects clinicians to continuously improve and develop their expertise in areas relevant to contemporary Primary Care, examples of which include:

- ⇒ Frailty
- ⇒ Dementia
- ⇒ Rehabilitation Medicine
- ⇒ Acute Medicine
- ⇒ Ambulatory Emergency Care
- ⇒ Chronic Disease Management

To enable and support this development, full-time Portfolio GPs will routinely have 4 hours of paid study time per week incorporated in their working patterns, supported by a negotiated training and development plan. The expectation is that over 3 years, GPs will study towards attaining a minimum of a Post-Graduate Certificate in a specialist subject area.

Shropdoc offers a rich clinical environment to support development and continued knowledge expansion. There is a sense of pride that comes from working at Shropdoc; experiencing a fast-paced exciting journey resolving many different cases, situations and treating a diverse range of patients. Becoming a Shropdoc GP is an emotionally rewarding role and internally satisfying - providing the highest standard of efficient care whilst being supported by a robust and well experienced clinical team.

### Why Shropdoc?

Retaining the original values of a GP co-operative, we are a patient centred organisation with high levels of clinical governance offering our clinical staff various work streams, offering choice and flexibility to both career and portfolio GP's. We strive to develop our employees through numerous regular educational opportunities and supported mandatory training.

At Shropdoc you will receive exceptional support from the Medical Directorate, who has a specialist interest in human performance and systems, along with training, appraisal and educational expertise. Unlike many organisations, as well as various work streams we have a contemporary skill mix within the clinical team and emerging academic links with Training Partners and Universities.

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please contact a member of our friendly HR Recruitment Team on 01743 454900 or email [recruitment.shropdoc@nhs.net](mailto:recruitment.shropdoc@nhs.net).  
Alternatively contact Simon Chapple our Medical Director by email [Simon.Chapple@nhs.net](mailto:Simon.Chapple@nhs.net).